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AND

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1779.

A CIRCULAR LETTER *from the* CONGRESS *of the* UNITED STATES *of* AMERICA *to their* CONSTITUENTS.

Friends and Fellow Citizens,

IN governments, raised on the generous principles of equal liberty, where the rulers of the state are the servants of the people, and not the masters of those from whom they derive authority, it is their duty to inform their fellow citizens of the state of their affairs, and by evincing the propriety of public measures, lead them to unite the influence of inclination to the force of legal obligation in rendering them successful. This duty ceases not, even in times of the most perfect peace, order and tranquility, when the safety of the Commonwealth is neither endangered by force or seduction from abroad, or by faction, treachery, or misguided ambition from within. At this season, therefore, we find ourselves in a particular manner impressed with a sense of it, and can no longer forbear calling your attention to a subject much misrepresented, and respecting which dangerous as well as erroneous opinions have been held and propagated; we mean your finances.

The ungrateful despotism and inordinate lust of domination which marked the unnatural designs of the British King and his venal Parliament to enslave the people of America, reduced you to the necessity of either asserting your rights by arms, or ingloriously passing under the yoke. You nobly preferred war. Armies were then to be raised, paid and supplied: Money became necessary for these purposes. Of your own there was but little; and of no nation in the world could you then borrow. The little that was spread among you could be collected only by taxes, and to this end regular governments were essential; of these you were also destitute. So circumstanced, you had no other resource but the natural value and wealth of your fertile country. Bills were issued on the credit of this bank, and your faith was pledged for their redemption. After a considerable number of these had circulated, loans were solicited, and offices for the purpose established. Thus a national debt was unavoidably created, and the amount of it is as follows:

	Dollars.	
Bills emitted and circulating,	159,948,880	
Monies borrowed before the 1st of March 1778, the interest of which is payable in France,	7,545,196	67-90
Monies borrowed since the 1st of March 1778, the interest of which is payable here,	26,188,909	
Money due abroad, not exactly known--- the balances not having been transmitted, supposed to be about	4,000,000	

For your further satisfaction we shall order a particular account of the several emissions, with the times limited for their redemption, and also of the several loans, the interest allowed on each, and the terms assigned for their payment, to be prepared and published.

The taxes have as yet brought into the treasury no more than 3,027,560, so that all the monies supplies to Congress by the people of America, amount to no more than 36,761,665 dollars and 67-90ths, that being the sum of the loans and taxes received. Judge then of the necessity of emissions, and learn from whom and from whence that necessity arose.

We are also to inform you, that on the first day of September instant we resolved, "that we would on no account whatever "emit more bills of credit than to make the whole amount of "such bills two hundred millions of dollars, and as the sum "emitted and in circulation amounted to 159,948,880 dollars, "and the sum of 40,051,120 dollars remained to compleat the "two hundred millions above mentioned, we on the third day "of September instant further resolved, that we would emit "such part only of the said sum of 40,051,120 dollars as should "be absolutely necessary for public exigencies before adequate "supplies could otherwise be obtained, relying for such supplies "on the exertions of the several States."

Exclusive of the great and ordinary expences incident to the war, the depreciation of the currency has so swelled the prices of every necessary article, and of consequence made such additions to the usual amount of expenditures, that very considerable supplies must be immediately provided by loans and taxes; and we unanimously declare it to be essential to the welfare of these States, that the taxes already called for be paid into the continental treasury by the time recommended for that purpose. It is also highly proper that you should extend your views beyond, that period, and prepare in season as well for bringing your respective quotas of troops into the field early the next campaign, as for providing the supplies necessary in the course of it. We shall take care to apprize you from time to time of the state of the treasury, and to recommend the proper measures for supplying it. To keep your battalions full, to encourage loans, and to assess your taxes with prudence, collect them with firmness, and pay them with punctuality, is all that will be requisite on your part. Further ways and means of providing for the public exigencies are now under consideration, and will soon be laid before you.

Having thus given you a short and plain state of your debt, and pointed out the necessity of punctuality in furnishing the supplies already required, we shall proceed to make a few remarks on the depreciation of the currency, to which we entreat your attention.

The depreciation of bills of credit is always either natural or artificial, or both. The latter is our case. The moment the sum in circulation exceeded what was necessary as a medium in commerce, it began and continued to depreciate in proportion as the amount of the surplus encreased; and that proportion would hold good until the sum emitted should become so great as nearly to equal the value of the capital or stock, on the credit of which the bills were issued. Supposing, therefore, that 30,000,000 was necessary for a circulating medium, and that 160,000,000 had issued, the natural depreciation is but little more than as five to one: But the actual depreciation exceeds that proportion, and that excess is artificial. The natural depreciation is to be removed only by lessening the quantity of money in circulation. It will regain its primitive value whenever it shall be reduced to the sum necessary for a medium of commerce. This is only to be effected by loans and taxes.

The artificial depreciation is a more serious subject, and merits minute investigation. A distrust (however occasioned) entertained by the mass of the people either in the *ability* or *inclination* of the United States to redeem their bills, is the cause of it. Let us enquire, how far reason will justify a distrust in the *ability* of the United States.

The ability of the United States must depend on two things: First, the success of the present revolution, and secondly, on the sufficiency of the natural wealth, value and resources of the country.

That the time has been when honest men might, without being chargeable with timidity, have doubted the success of the present revolution, we admit; but that period is passed. The independence of America is now as fixed as fate, and the petulant efforts of Britain to break it down are as vain and fruitless as the raging of the waves which beat against their clifts. Let those who are still afflicted with these doubts consider the character and condition of our enemies. Let them remember that we are contending against a kingdom crumbling into pieces; a nation without public virtue; and a people sold to and betrayed by their own representatives; against a Prince governed by his passions, and a Ministry without confidence or wisdom; against armies half paid and generals half trusted; against a government equal only to plans of plunder, conflagration and murder---a government, by the most impious violations of the rights of religion, justice, humanity and mankind, courting the vengeance of Heaven and revolting from the protection of Providence. Against the fury of these enemies you made successful resistance when single, alone, and friendless, in the days of weakness and infancy, before your hands had been taught to war or your fingers to fight. And can there be any reason to apprehend that the Divine disposer of human events, after having separated us from the house of bondage, and led us safe through a sea of blood towards the land of liberty and promise, will leave the work of our political redemption unfinished, and either permit us to perish in a wilderness of difficulties, or suffer us to be carried back in chains to that country of oppression, from whose tyranny he hath mercifully delivered us with a stretched-out arm?

In close alliance with one of the most powerful nations in Europe, which has generously made our cause her own, in amity with many others, and enjoying the good-will of all, what danger have we to fear from Britain? Instead of acquiring accessions of territory by conquest, the limits of her empire daily contract: her fleets no longer rule the ocean, nor are her armies invincible by land. How many of her standards, wrested from the hands of her champions, are among your trophies, and have graced the triumphs of your troops? and how great is the number of those, who, sent to bind you in fetters, have become your captives, and received their lives from your hands? In short, whoever considers that these States are daily encreasing in power; that their armies have become veteran; that their governments, founded in freedom, are established; that their fertile country and their affectionate ally furnish them with ample supplies; that the Spanish monarch, well prepared for war, with fleets and armies ready for combat, and a treasury overflowing with wealth, has entered the lists against Britain; that the other European nations, often insulted by her pride, and alarmed by the strides of her ambition, have left her to her fate: that Ireland, weared with her oppressions, is panting for liberty, and even Scotland displeased and uneasy at her edicts:---Whoever considers these things, instead of doubting the issue of the war, will rejoice in the glorious, the sure and certain prospect of success.

This point being established, the next question is, whether the natural wealth, value and resource of the country, will be equal to the payment of the debt?

Let us suppose, for the sake of argument, that at the conclusion of the war the emissions should amount to 200,000,000, that exclusive of supplies from taxes, which will not be inconsiderable, the loans should amount to 100,000,000, then the whole national debt of the United States would be 300,000,000. There are at present 3,000,000 of inhabitants in the thirteen States: 300,000,000 of dollars, divided among 3,000,000 of people, would give to each person 100 dollars; and is there an individual in America unable in the course of eighteen or twenty years to pay it again? Suppose the whole debt assessed, as it ought to be, on the inhabitants, in proportion to their respective estates, what would then be the share of the poorer people? Perhaps not ten dollars. Besides, as this debt will not be payable immediately, but probably twenty years allotted for it, the number of inhabitants by that time in America will be far more than double their present amount. It is well known that the inhabitants of this country encreased almost in the ratio of compound interest. By natural population they doubled every twenty years, and how great may be the host of emigrants from other countries cannot be ascertained. We have the highest reason to believe the number will be immense. Suppose that only ten thousand should arrive the first year after the war, what will those ten thousand with their families count in twenty years time?---probably double the number. This observation applies with proportionable force to the emigrants of every successive year. Thus you see great part of your debt will be payable not meerly by the present number of inhabitants, but by that number swelled and encreased by the natural population of the present inhabitants, by multitudes of emigrants daily arriving from other countries, and by the natural population of those successive emigrants, so that every person's share of the debt will be constantly diminishing by others coming in to pay a proportion of it.

These are advantages which none but young countries enjoy. The number of inhabitants in every country in Europe remains nearly the same from one century to another. No country will produce more people than it can subsist, and every country, if free and cultivated, will produce as many as it can maintain. Hence we may form some idea of the future population of these States. Extensive wildernesses, now scarcely known or explored, remain yet to be cultivated, and vast lakes and rivers, whose waters have for ages rolled in silence and obscurity to the ocean, are yet to hear the din of industry, become subservient to commerce, and boast delightful villas, gilded spires, and spacious cities rising on their banks.

Thus much for the number of persons to pay the debt. The next point is their *ability*. They who enquire how many millions of acres are contained only in the settled part of North-America, and how much each acre is worth, will acquire very enlarged and yet very inadequate ideas of the value of this country. But those who will carry their enquiries further, and learn that we heretofore paid an annual tax to Britain of three millions sterling in the way of trade, and still grew rich; that our commerce was then confined to her; that we were obliged to carry our commodities to her market, and consequently to sell them at her price; that we were compelled to purchase foreign commodities at her stores, and on her terms, and were afraid to establish any manufactories incompatible with her views of gain; that in future the whole world will be open to us, and we shall be at liberty to purchase from those who will sell on the best terms, and to sell to those who will give the best prices; that as the country encreases in number of inhabitants and cultivation, the productions of the earth will be proportionably encreased, and the riches of the whole proportionably greater: Whoever examines the force of these and similar observations, must smile at the ignorance of those who doubt the ability of the United States to redeem their bills.

Let it also be remembered that paper money is the only kind of money which cannot "make unto itself wings and fly away." It remains with us, it will not forsake us, it is always ready and at hand for the purpose of commerce or taxes, and every industrious man can find it. On the contrary, should Britain, like Nineveh (and for the same reason) yet find mercy, and escape the storm ready to burst upon her, she will find her national debt in a very different situation. Her territory diminished, her people wasted, her commerce ruined, her monoplies gone, she must provide for the discharge of her immense debt by taxes to be paid in specie, in gold or silver, perhaps now buried in the mines of Mexico or Peru, or still concealed in the brooks and rivulets of Africa or Indostan.

Having shewn that there is no reason to doubt the ability of the United States to pay their debt, let us next enquire whether as much can be said for their inclination.

Under this head three things are to be attended to:

1st. Whether and in what manner the faith of the United States has been pledged for the redemption of their bills?

2d. Whether they have put themselves in a political capacity to redeem them,---and

3d. Whether, admitting the two former propositions, there is any reason to apprehend a wanton violation of the public faith?

1st. It must be evident to every man who reads the journals of Congress, or looks at the face of one of their bills, that Congress have pledged the faith of their constituents for the redemption of them. And it must be equally evident, not only that they had authority to do so, but that their constituents have actually ratified their acts, by receiving their bills, passing laws establishing their currency, and punishing those who counterfeit them. So that it may with truth be said that the people have pledged their faith for the redemption of them, not only collectively by their representatives, but individually.

2d. Whether the United States have put themselves in a political capacity to redeem their bills, is a question which calls for more full discussion.

Our enemies, as well foreign as domestic, have laboured to raise doubts on this head. They argue that the confederation of the States remains yet to be perfected; that the union may be dissolved; Congress be abolished, and each State resuming its delegated powers proceed in future to hold and exercise all the rights of sovereignty appertaining to an independent State. In such an event, say they, the continental bills of credit, created and supported by the union, would die with it. This position being assumed, they next proceed to assert this event to be probable, and in proof of it urge our divisions, our parties, our separate interests, distinct manners, former prejudices, and many other arguments equally plausible and equally fallacious. Examine this matter.

For every purpose essential to the defence of these States in the progress of the present war, and necessary to the attainment of the objects of it, these States now are as fully, legally and absolutely confederated, as it is possible for them to be. Read the credentials of the different delegates who composed the Congress in 1774, 1775, and part of 1776. You will find that they establish an union for the express purpose of opposing the oppressions of Britain and obtaining redress of grievances. On the 4th of July 1776, your Representatives in Congress, perceiving that nothing less than unconditional submission would satisfy our enemies, did, in the name of the people of the Thirteen United Colonies, declare them to be free and independent States, and "for the SUPPORT of that declaration, with a firm reli-"ance on the protection of Divine Providence, did mutually "pledge to each other their LIVES, their FORTUNES "and their SACRED HONOUR." Was ever confederation more formal, more solemn or explicit? It has been expressly assented to and ratified by every State in the union.---Accordingly, for the direct SUPPORT of this declaration, that is for the support of the independence of these States, armies have been raised, and bills of credit emitted and loans made to pay and supply them. The redemption therefore of these bills, the payment of these debts, and the settlement of the accounts of the several States for expenditures or services for the common benefit and in this common cause, are among the objects of this confederation; and consequently while all or any of its objects remain unattained, it cannot, so far as it may respect such objects, be dissolved, consistent with the laws of God or Man.

But we are persuaded, and our enemies will find, that our union is not to end here. They are mistaken when they suppose us kept together only by a sense of present danger. It is a fact which they only will dispute, that the people of these States were never so cordially united as at this day. By having been obliged to mix with each other, former prejudices have worn off, and their several manners become blended. A sense of common permanent interest, mutual affection (having been brethren in affliction) the ties of consanguinity daily extending, constant reciprocity of good offices, similarity in language, in governments, and therefore in manners, the importance, wieght and splendor of the union, all conspire in forming a strong chain of connection, which must for ever bind us together. The United Provinces of

the Netherlands and the United Cantons of Switzerland became free and independent under circumſtances very like ours: their independence has been long eſtabliſhed, and yet their confederacies continue in full vigor. What reaſon can be aſſigned why our union ſhould be leſs laſting? or why ſhould the people of theſe States be ſuppoſed leſs wiſe than the inhabitants of thoſe? You are not uninformed that a plan for a perpetual confederation has been prepared and that twelve of the thirteen ſtates have already acceded to it. But enough has been ſaid to ſhew, that for every purpoſe of the preſent war, and all things incident to it, there does at preſent exiſt a perfect ſolemn confederation, and therefore that the States now are and always will be in a political capacity to redeem their bills, pay their debts, and ſettle their accounts.

3d. Whether, admitting the ability and political capacity of the United States to redeem their bills, there is any reaſon to apprehend a wanton violation of the public faith?

It is with great regret and reluctance that we can prevail upon ourſelves to take the leaſt notice of a queſtion, which involves in it a doubt ſo injurious to the honour and dignity of America.

The enemy, aware that the ſtrength of America lay in the union of her citizens, and the wiſdom and integrity of thoſe to whom they committed the direction of their affairs, have taken unwearied pains to diſunite and alarm the people, to depreciate the abilities and virtue of their rulers, and to impair the confidence repoſed in them by their conſtituents. To this end repeated attempts have been made to draw an abſurd and fanciful line of diſtinction between the Congreſs and the People, and to create an opinion and a belief that their intereſts and views were different and oppoſed. Hence the ridiculous tales, the invidious inſinuations, and the whimſical ſuſpicions that have been forged and propagated by diſguiſed emiſſaries and traitors in the garb of patriots. Hence has proceeded the notable diſcovery, that as the Congreſs made the money they alſo can deſtroy it; and that it will exiſt no longer than they find it convenient to permit it. It is not ſurpriſing that in a free country, where the tongues and pens of ſuch people are and muſt be licenſed, ſuch political hereſies ſhould be inculcated and diffuſed, but it is really aſtoniſhing that the mind of a ſingle virtuous citizen in America ſhould be influenced by them. It certainly cannot be neceſſary to remind you that your repreſentatives here are choſen from among yourſelves; that you are or ought to be acquainted with their ſeveral characters; that they are ſent here to ſpeak your ſentiments, and that it is conſtantly in your power to remove ſuch as do not. You ſurely are convinced that it is no more in their power to annihilate your money than your independence, and that any act of theirs for either of thoſe purpoſes would be null and void.

We ſhould pay an ill compliment to the underſtanding and honour of every true American, were we to adduce many arguments to ſhew the baſeneſs or bad policy of violating our national faith, or omitting to purſue the meaſures neceſſary to preſerve it. A bankrupt faithleſs republic would be a novelty in the political world, and appear among reputable nations, like a common proſtitute among chaſte and reſpectable matrons. The pride of America revolts from the idea; her citizens know for what purpoſes theſe emiſſions were made, and have repeatedly plighted their faith for the redemption of them; they are to be found in every man's poſſeſſion, and every man is intereſted in their being redeemed; they muſt therefore entertain a high opinion of American credulity, who ſuppoſe the people capable of believing, on due reflection, that all America will, againſt the faith, the honor and the intereſt of all America, be ever prevailed upon to countenance, ſupport or permit ſo ruinous, ſo diſgraceful a meaſure. We are convinced that the efforts and arts of our enemies will not be wanting to draw us into this humiliating and contemptible ſituation. Impelled by malice, and the ſuggeſtions of chagrin and diſappointment, at not being able to bend our necks to their yoke, they will endeavour to force or ſeduce us to commit this unpardonable ſin, in order to ſubject us to the puniſhment due to it, and that we may thenceforth be a reproach and a by-word among the nations. Apprized of theſe conſequences, knowing he value of national character, and impreſſed with a due ſenſe of the immutable laws of juſtice and honour, it is impoſſible that America ſhould think without horror of ſuch an execrable deed.

If then neither our ability or inclination to diſcharge the public debt, are juſtly queſtionable, let our conduct correſpond with this confidence, and let us reſcue our credit from its preſent imputations. Had the attention of America to this object been unremitted, had taxes been ſeaſonably impoſed and collected, had proper loans been made, had laws been paſſed and executed for puniſhing thoſe who maliciouſly endeavoured to injure the public credit; had theſe and many other things equally neceſſary been done, and had our currency, notwithſtanding all theſe efforts, declined to its preſent degree of depreciation, our caſe would indeed have been deplorable. But as theſe exertions have not been made, we may yet experience the good effects which naturally reſult from them. Our former negligences therefore ſhould now animate us with hope, and teach us not to deſpair of removing by vigilance and application the evils which ſupineneſs and inattention have produced.

It has been already obſerved, that in order to prevent the further natural depreciation of our bills we have reſolved to ſtop the preſs, and to call upon you for ſupplies by loans and taxes. You are in capacity to afford them, and are bound by the ſtrongeſt ties to do it. Leave us not therefore without ſupplies, nor let in that flood of evils which would follow from ſuch a neglect. It would be an event moſt grateful to our enemies, and depend upon it they will redouble their artifices and induſtry to compaſs it. Be therefore upon your guard, and examine well the policy of every meaſure and the evidence of every report that may be propoſed or mentioned to you, before you adopt the one or believe the other. Recollect that it is the price of the liberty, the peace and ſafety of yourſelves and poſterity, that now is required;--*that* peace, liberty and ſafety, for the attainment and ſecurity of which you have ſo often and ſo ſolemnly declared your readineſs to ſacrifice your lives and fortunes. The war, tho' drawing faſt to a ſucceſsful iſſue, ſtill rages. Diſdain to leave the whole buſineſs of your defence to your Ally. Be mindful that the brigheſt proſpects may be clouded, and that prudence bids us be prepared for every event. Provide therefore for continuing your armies in the field till victory and peace ſhall lead them home, and avoid the reproach of permitting the currency to depreciate in your hands, when by yielding a part to taxes and loans, the whole might have been appreciated and preſerved.

Humanity as well as juſtice makes this demand upon you, the complaints of ruined widows, and the cries of fatherleſs children, whoſe whole ſupport has been placed in your hands and melted away, have doubtleſs reached you---take care that they aſcend no higher. Route therefore; ſtrive who ſhall do moſt for his country; rekindle that flame of patriotiſm which at the mention of diſgrace and ſlavery blazed throghout America, and animated all her citizens. Determine to finiſh the conteſt as you began it, honeſtly and glorioufly.---Let it never be ſaid that America had no ſooner become independent than ſhe became inſolvent, or that her infant glories and growing fame were obſcured and tarniſhed by broken contracts and violated faith, in the very hour when all the nations of the earth were admiring and almoſt adoring the ſplendor of her riſing.

By the unanimous Order of CONGRESS,
JOHN JAY, Preſident.
Philadelphia, Sept. 13, 1779.

CHARLESTOWN, AUGUST 24.

On the 5th of laſt Month the Privateer Schooner Buck, Capt. Dunnivan, of New-York, was carried off from the Harbour of New-Providence by a Number of Americans, whilſt the Captain, with the firſt and ſecond Lieutenants, were on Shore.

Captains Inman and Newman have lately made priſoners of 16 men, who were driving 400 cattle to Georgia, and brought off the cattle.—And Col. Twigs of the Georgia militia, with Major Jamieſon of the Georgia Light horſe, have lately (the 14th Inſt.) defeated a party of the enemy below Briar Creek, commanded by M'Girt; of whom they killed 5 wounded 5 and took 4 priſoners, with 23 horſes and 15 ſtand of arms. Among the wounded, was a Lieut. Jones, of Col. Moore's loyaliſts. M'Girt himſelf was ſuppoſed to be wounded; he with the reſt of the party got into a creek. Some deſerters from Savannah, who left it laſt Monday, ſay, M'Girt was mortally wounded.

Sept. 4. Late laſt night the Lieutenant of marines of the armed brig Bellona, came up to town with intelligence of His Excellency Count d'Eſtaing's fleet, conſiſting of 25 ſail of the line, 20 frigates and 3 courvettes or ſloops, being at anchor on Thurſday noon, in 14 fathom water, off Tybee; on board the fleet are 5000 land forces. A frigate had been diſpatched with an expreſs to this town; it is imagined the high wind we had on Thurſday night has occaſioned her ſtanding off; but as the weather is now favourable, ſhe is hourly looked for. Pilots are now going to the Count. This great and unexpected aid cannot fail giving the higheſt ſatisfaction to every real friend of America, and affords the happy proſpect of ſoon ſeeing the virtuous few of our ſiſter State of Georgia, reinſtated in their poſſeſſions, and a ſpeedy ſtop being put to the ravages of our haughty invaders.

PHILADELPHIA.

For the PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

AN angry writer in the Pennſylvania Gazette, under the ſignature of Sidney, has called the public attention to a *newly propoſed eſtabliſhment* of immenſe ſalaries and perquiſites to the officers of government, and charges thoſe whom he calls the "party in oppoſition to government," with the meanneſs of attempting to ſtarve its OFFICERS.

Without returning any of this writer's illiberal language, I ſhall ſubmit a few thoughts on the ſubject of *offices* to the impartial public.—The conſtitution of this State hath wiſely conſidered *lucrative offices* as the bane of all government, eſpecially thoſe of the republican kind, becauſe it ſubjects them to conſtant convulſions and cabals among thoſe *who would be great for* PLACE *and* PROFIT. It hath therefore directed that "whenever an office, thro' increaſe of fees or otherwiſe, becomes ſo profitable as to occaſion *many* to apply for it, *the profits ought to be leſſened by the legiſlature.*" Whether many of the offices in the gift both of the legiſlative and executive powers of this State are not already of this nature, let the multitude of petitions which come before them on every vacancy declare.

Certain it is, that the former applications for raiſing the ſalaries, fees and perquiſites of offices, and fixing them at *four* for *one*, was the firſt *public avowal* of the depreciation of our money; and this *conſpicuous example* being once ſet, it was rapidly followed, in ſelf-defence, by the people, who were to pay theſe ſalaries, &c.—and a breach being thus once made upon the credit of a *paper dollar*, ſo that the printed words on its face which ſpoke it equal to a *ſilver dollar*, were conſidered as of no ſtanding ſignificancy, it became uncertain where to ſtop.

It is now propoſed by ſome, who call themſelves *friends to Government*, that the ſalaries, &c. of its officers ſhall be fixed at *twenty* to *one*. But will this remedy the evil, or give an aſſurance of ſtopping here? or will it not be giving a legiſlative ſanction to this ſtage of depreciation?

Theſe queſtions merit a ſerious anſwer, and ſo far I will boldly ſay at preſent—That while the cries of the *fatherleſs* and the *widow* are unheard;—While a law continues, under the ſanction of which (however well intended at firſt) the rapacious and unjuſt guardian or executor, who has long applied the *orphan's* money to his own uſe, may diſcharge his accounts in *nominal ſums* at one twentieth of the original value, while the poor *widow* muſt receive her dower or daily ſupport in the ſame ſcanty allowance, while the legacies and benefactions pioufly bequeathed in the dying moments of good men, for the ſupport of religion and learning, and other humane and charitable purpoſes, may be paid in the ſame nominal depreciated value, while the aged and infirm creditor ſees the lands which he had kindly enabled his neighbour to purchaſe, on the faith of Bonds and Mortgages, ſold at twenty times the nominal value of the firſt coſt, and the thankleſs debtor putting nineteen twentieths in his pocket, and compelling his long forbearing creditor to receive the other *twentieth*, in full ſatisfaction for the whole debt; I ſay, while ſuch a law continues, and petitions for redreſs now lie before the Legiſlature, they will with a very bad grace make any further increaſe or multiplication of their own wages, or of the ſalaries, fees, or perquiſites of the officers of government, till the cries of this diſtreſſed claſs of people are firſt heard, and the tears are wiped from their eyes: if we expect a bleſſing on our ſtrenuous efforts for public juſtice and liberty, let not theſe cries aſcend from earth to Heaven unregarded; and let it be conſidered, that Government will appear far more reſpectable if thoſe who would be thought its friends would exert themſelves in acts of juſtice and mercy of this kind, rather than in ſeeking to exalt the powers, prerogatives and profits of Government, ſo as to ſwallow up every thing within its vortex.

Let it never be mentioned as for the honor of any government, that its officers ſhould be enabled at a public expence to keep luxurious tables for the entertainment of ſtrangers, and pompous equipages for their wives and daughters, copying the manners of the *old* world in this *young* republic; while the wives and daughters of thoſe who were once at leaſt their equals and neighbours, are deprived of their patrimony, weeping and ſtarving around them.

The writer, who calls himſelf Sidney (diſhonouring indeed the great virtue and memory of the patriot of that name) ſtrives to blacken the characters of thoſe who oppoſe the preſent attempts for obtaining enormous eſtabliſhments, by aſſerting, that they were the "moſt clamorous at every ſeſſions to raiſe their own wages."—This is ſo far from truth, that raiſing the wages of Aſſemblymen was oppoſed by the Republicans in the Houſe, and was done upon the clamorous requeſt of thoſe who call themſelves Conſtitutionaliſts, while on the other hand, a houſe was granted to the Preſident, in augmentation of his ſalary, entirely upon the motion of the Republicans.

Whether the care of the public money, and a deſire to have *equal laws*, whether to redreſs the afflicted and provide our quota for the general defence of theſe States with as much eaſe as poſſible to the ſubject, rather than to curſe and impoveriſh the country with enormous ſalaries, (as if Government was inſtituted only for indulging a few rulers in riot and luxury, while the people at large are treated as beaſts of burden, I ſay whether this is *meanneſs* or not, and whether thoſe who pity and regard the diſtreſſes of the community at large are its friends or foes, let the impartial world judge.

How far the former appointments for the officers of Government in this State are *mean* or *liberal*, will beſt appear by comparing ſome of them with thoſe of the other United States.

New-Hampſhire. The Preſident has no ſettled ſalary, but occaſional ſums voted, the whole of which did not exceed 4000 dollars in 1778.

Maſſachuſetts. The Preſident is the eldeſt Counſellor, and only *primus inter pares*, he has no emoluments annexed to his office, and has only 10 dollars per day, as other Counſellors have.

Rhode-Iſland. The Governor has only 300 dollars a year, and ſome perquiſites, as *Naval Officer*, after paying his clerks.

Connecticut. The Governor's Salary is 300l. lawful money per annum, beſides which he has been allowed ſometimes 100l. ſometimes 150l. extraordinary. Laſt year the Aſſembly allowed him, in lieu of all former appointments, 4500l. or 12000 dollars.

New-York. The Governor's Salary is 7500 dollars, or 2812l. 10s. He has no houſe allowed him, nor any perquiſites.

New-Jerſey. I have not been able to learn exactly what ſalary is fixed for the Governor of this State, but am told his whole appointments do not amount to 3000l. per annum, or 8000 dollars.

Delaware. The Preſident's Salary is 200l. or 553 and 1-3d. dollars, and no perquiſites that I can have an account of.

Maryland. The Governor's Salary is 2500l. or 6666 2-3d. dollars, ſome late allowances have been made by the Legiſlature of this State for the officers of Government, on account of the preſent fluctuating ſtate of money, but they have done this without ſetting an example of raiſing ſalaries and undervaluing our money.

Virginia. The Governor's ſalary is 4500l. or 15,000 dollars. I do not find that he has any perquiſites, except the uſe of the palace, the ſtables and ſome paſture ground.

North-Carolina. The Governor has no fixed ſalary, but an allowance voted from time to time.—His laſt allowance was 15,000 dollars per annum, and ſome ſmall perquiſites.

South-Carolina. The Governor has 2000l. per annum, or 5333 and 1-3d dollars, but no perquiſites nor houſe.

Let us now conſider the ſalaries propoſed for the officers of this government by the gentlemen who are accuſed of oppoſition to them, and the "*meanneſs* of attempting to ſtarve them."

Pennſylvania. The Preſident 16,000 dollars, or 6000l. an houſe, which would be worth to the State per annum, 2000l. Total £ 8000

The Secretary, propoſed ſalary 2000l. Tavern licences in 1773 were 1700, and they are not now diminiſhed, for which it is propoſed to allow him 36 s. making in the whole at leaſt 3060l. Marriage licences in 1773 about 500, which are propoſed to be charged at 36s. each, for the better encouragement of the Secretary but not of matrimony, 625l. Total for the Secretary, 5685

Attorney General, his ſalary is 1000l. His propoſed fee on each indictment is 5l. 8s. and ſuppoſe in the city and county of Philadelphia, counties of Bucks, Cheſter, Lancaſter, York, Cumberland, Berks and Northampton, each of which he may and therefore ought in duty to attend, I ſay, ſuppoſe in theſe there are 600 indictments in the courſe of one year (and the number will be found to exceed this) then his fees will be 3240l. 4240

N. B. So far is the office of Attorney General from depriving of practice, except in the Courts of Oyer and Terminer and the Quarter-Seſſions, that it is a ſure recommendation to extenſive practice, when he happens to be a man of merit.

Chief Juſtice,	4000
Two Puiſne Judges, 2000l. each,	4000

Beſides theſe ſalaries the Judges have their expences paid while on the circuit, and the Aſſembly have further provided that they ſhall be paid for all extra ſervices, in relation to forfeited eſtates. -------

Theſe are the ſalaries and perquiſites propoſed by the gentlemen who are charged with the *meanneſs of attempting to ſtarve the officers of government*, and they amount, on the whole, among ſix officers, to £ 25,925

Or in dollars, 69,133 and 1-3d.

Let us next take a view of what is propoſed by ſome who call themſelves *friends to government*, and at the ſame time *friends to the people alſo*. The propoſal is, to raiſe every thing as *twenty* to *one*. Thus,

The Preſident,	£ 80,000
Secretary's fees to be raiſed to 10,000l. with an additional ſalary of at leaſt 2000l.	12,000
Attorney General's fees to be raiſed twenty-fold, that is 18l. for an indictment, 10,800l. and ſalary 1600l.	12,400
Chief Juſtice, beſides extra ſervices,	10,000
Two Puiſne Judges, beſides ditto, 5000l. each,	10,000
Prothonotary of Philadelphia, formerly worth 1200l. now	24,000
Ditto of Lancaſter, 800l.	16,000
Ditto of Cheſter, 700l.	14,000
Ditto of York, about 500l.	10 000
Ditto of Cumberland, about 600l.	12,000

And thus other Prothonotaries ſalaries may be eſtimated. But there ſtill remains to be provided for a multitude of *officers* and *public men*, ſome *new* and ſome *old*, which my time and paper would fail me to number up, ſuch as the Vice Preſident, the Counſellors, the Aſſemblymen, who leave their homes and devote much of their time to their country's ſervice, and the whole hoſt of Commiſſioners, Agents, Treaſurers, Tax-gatherers, Aſſeſſors, Overſeers of the highways, of the poor, &c. &c. whoſe allowances muſt all be in the ſame proportion; ſo that in this way it may be ſafely aſſerted that *half a million of pounds* would not defray our yearly expences in the ſingle article of government.

And muſt not that government be thought dear to a people, which requires all that can be drawn from them in heavy taxes for its annual ſupport, and leaves nothing for the public defence, nor for the advancement of religion, learning, works of charity, public improvements, and the like.

Are principles of this kind conſiſtent with the pure nature of a Commonwealth, which leaves ſomething to the public ſpirit of officers, and diſdains to make places

so lucrative as to induce men to quarrel about them, or seek a continuance in them, to the exclusion of that *salutary rotation* which is the life and basis of Republics? and which is most pointedly recommended by our constitution. Men may support such extravagant doctrines, who expect suddenly to be seated in such offices by the hand of *government*, but can never think to recommend themselves thereby to any trust which they are to hold by the free voice of the PEOPLE.

AGRICOLA.

The Sieur GERARD, Minister Plenipotentiary of France, being expected shortly to leave this State, the President and Supreme Executive Council took leave of him last Wednesday in the following Address:

SIR,

THE President and Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, would not do justice to their own feelings and your merit, if they suppressed their wishes for your future prosperity and happiness, and their regret, that the commands of your Prince, and the bad state of your health, have abridged your residence among us.

The favour of your Sovereign, we trust, awaits your faithful services; and if the affectionate regards of this Board can add to your happiness, be assured that you possess them in a very high degree.

Your eminent services in forming the union between the two Nations, and your conduct, which has had so happy a tendency to conciliate and cement our affections to the Monarch and People of France, must fully justify, in the opinion of the world, this special mark of our attention and respect, and transmit your name to posterity among the first and most distinguished friends of this rising Empire.

With sincere wishes for your safe and happy arrival in your native country, Sir, we bid you adieu.

Signed in behalf of the Council unanimously,
JOSEPH REED, President.

His EXCELLENCY'S *ANSWER.*

GENTLEMEN,

THE flattering marks of esteem and regard which you are pleased to shew me, affect me with the most lively gratitude. I esteem myself happy in having merited your approbation, and the testimony which you give to the zeal with which I have endeavoured by all the means in my power to confirm your confidence in the friendship of the King my Master, and the union and good understanding between the two nations. It is with infinite satisfaction, gentlemen, that I take this occasion to acknowledge the disposition you have shewn in the course of my Embassy to contribute to the same salutary end, by the manner in which you have exerted the authority you have been entrusted with.

Penetrated with these sentiments, gentlemen, and with the confidence due to you in so many respects, nothing remains but to pray you to accept my thanks for all the regards which I have experienced from you, as well as a public Minister as personally, and my wishes for your happiness and prosperity. GERARD.

Philadelphia, September 22, 1779.

Extract of a letter from an officer in the western army commanded by Major General Sullivan, dated Konadasagea, September 9, 1779.

"Since the action of the 29th of last month, the Indians have fled at the approach of our army, and left their settlements to our mercy—New-Town, Konowarohala, French Katherines, Candai, Skayes, Gaghseonghwa, and Konadasagea, are great heaps of ruin; besides these, we have burnt a number of scattering houses, and destroyed a large country of corn, pumpkins, cymblines, cucumbers, water-melons, peaches and apples.

"This day we shall set out for Geneseee, and lay that country in ashes. The enemy having retired to Niagara we expect no opposition as we advance, but expect an attack as we return."

Last Sunday was sent into this port, by the ship General Pickering, belonging to Boston, the privateer brig Hope (formerly the Sea Nymph, owned by Capt. Blewer of this city) of 14 carriage guns, commanded by Captain Hinde. The same day arrived the ship Molly, Capt. Matthison, with 160 Hessian officers and privates on board, bound to Halifax, taken by the schooner Mars, Captain Taylor, with the sloop Comet, Capt. Decator, in sight.

On Sunday, the 19th inst. departed this life, having finished his 59th year, JOSEPH REDMAN, Esq; a native of this city, and a descendant of one of the first settlers of this State.

He was endowed with a remarkable sweetness of temper, and eminent degree of humanity and benevolence, which often led him to sympathize with and perform acts of kindness to the poor and distressed, even beyond his abilities, especially in the office of High Sheriff of the city, to which he was elected for several years by his fellow citizens, and which he executed with great reputation for his equity in general, and charitable attention to the prisoners in particular. From his youth he has preserved uniformly the character of a dutiful son, an affectionate husband, parent and brother, a steady friend and virtuous citizen, and to compleat all he was an upright *honest man*, and a serious observer of the duties of religion.—Then let us not sorrow as men without hope, seeing we believe and are sure that, "An honest man is the noblest work of God," and will not fail of his reward in due time.

He lived respected by all who knew him, esteemed, yea beloved by all who were intimately acquainted with him, and died justly lamented by his nearest connections and friends. He was interred the next evening, attended by many of the most respectable inhabitants of the city.

On Wednesday the 15th inst. departed this life, in the 54th year of his age, EDWARD KEASBY, Esq; of Salem, and on Friday following his remains were conveyed from his late dwelling to the Baptist Meeting; after a sermon was delivered by the Rev. Mr. WILLIAM WORTH, from John 11th chapter and 11th verse, his body was decently interred in their burial ground.—The numerous attendance and behaviour of all ranks of people, on this mournful occasion, was such as bespoke their highest esteem for the deceased.—It will be sufficient to say of him, that he was a kind husband, indulgent parent, and a real loss to the country in which he lived; having filled the most respectable offices in the same for a number of years with uprightness and integrity.—As a Christian, a warm and steady professor of religion, from a very early period in life.—Useful in the Society to which he belonged as an Elder, beloved as a member of the same, exemplary in his life and conversation, and respected by all that knew him. *Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: For the end of that man is peace.*" Ps. xxxvii. 37.

TO THE PUBLIC.

A PARAGRAPH in his Excellency the President and Council's late message to the Hon. House of Assembly, respecting the CHARTER, &c. of the College, Academy and charitable schools in this city, has given some just alarm to other *private corporations* and institutions, *heretofore* founded and endowed by the piety of good men among us, for the advancement of religion, learning, and other charitable purposes. As under our *old* constitution and laws, which paid the strictest attention to religious liberty, all foundations of this kind were held sacred, so I have always understood that our *new* constitution had paid a still greater attention to them, and secured them in the very body of the frame of government, by an authority co-eval with and equal to that by which the Assembly sits; and therefore that wise body will undoubtedly consider how far they can interfere in the rights of such corporations, without violating the constitution which they have sworn to preserve; and that if the *charter rights* and *freehold* of such religious and charitable societies are to be questioned, it must be in due course of law, in the same way that any other *freehold* may be tried. *Extraordinary* remedies, where the *ordinary* course of justice is sufficient, are never to be admitted in a country where the *laws* rule.

Nec deus intersit nisi dignus vindice nodus
Inciderit.— Hor.

It is said that this day (viz. Wednesday, Sept. 29) is apppointed for a *public hearing* of this matter in the House of Assembly, and as it deeply interests every *religious*, *literary* and *charitable* society among us, it is not doubted but it will claim their particular attention.

I agree with the words of the message, that the "Constitution of this State, with a wisdom and forethought "that do honour to its framers," hath provided in the 44th section, that "a school or schools of learning shall "be established in each county by the Legislature, for "the convenient instruction of youth, with such salaries "to the masters, paid by the public, as may enable them "to instruct youth at low prices; and all useful learning "shall be encouraged and promoted in one or more uni-"versities." This is an excellent intention, when more settled times and the state of our finances will permit the due and *calm* execution of it; but it was never designed thereby to swallow up and injure private foundations of the like kind, as appears by what follows immediately in the next or 45th section, which expresly provides that, in making these NEW establishments, "all religious socie-"ties or bodies of men HERETOFORE *united* or incorpo-"rated for the advancement of RELIGION and LEARNING, "or for such other PIOUS and CHARITABLE purposes, "shall be encouraged and protected in the enjoyment of "the privileges, immunities and estates which *they were* "*accustomed* to enjoy, or could of *right* have enjoyed un-"der the laws and former constitution of this State."

Without this clause, which was inserted at the desire, and for the security of the different religious societies among us, the constitution would have been defective in wisdom, and would have left a door open for what it hath reprobated both in letter and spirit, viz. *religious establishments*. For if particular societies of men, with or without a charter, cannot make provision for *educating their own children*, and others who may be *freely* committed to their care; if the *living* as *well* as *dying* bequests of pious and charitable persons, who approved their design, and entrusted them with the care of their bounty, are not to be held *sacred*—all other *religious liberty* is but an empty name; for the education of *one*'s *own children*, in those principles which he himself is at least *tolerated* to profess, is a most essential part of this liberty. Nor is there any difference between being *compelled* to frequent a STATE RELIGION or a STATE SCHOOL; and it is evidently such a *compulsion*, if the means which men have provided for private education, agreeable to fundamental rules among themselves, are, without their consent, or any known forfeiture of their rights, to be taken from them, and no other means of education left them. Learning thrives best by *emulation*, and liberty could not exist long in any country where learning was not left *free*, yielding the allegiance which is due for the protection, and for the enjoyment of the other branches of liberty.

The College and Academy of this city hath subsisted *thirty years*, without seeking or receiving any *State encouragement* from those who were *then* in power, and multitudes of men, now distinguished in all parts of the continent, have been educated in it. When the objections against it are brought forward, the public will judge how far they deserve praise or censure, and whether the public may not found and provide for some more extensive plan without injuring the rights of private corporations.

N. G.

On Wednesday last was sent into this port, by the State ship General Green, Captain Montgomery, the privateer brig Byron, Captain Byrne, with ten carriage guns.

*** The CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY will meet this Evening on very necessary Business.

CHARLES W. PEALE, Chairman.

STUDIO CRESEIT SAPIENTIA.

WHEREAS an old citizen is now returned from a solitary rural situation, wherein he was abstracted from all company almost four years, in daily pursuit of useful knowledge from the best English authors, both antient and late, wants to try his ability in a gentleman's family, or a few under his care; namely, the rudiments of the English speech, 2d the rudiments of the Latin tongue, 3d the French and English grammar, instead of a French grammarian, 4th that youth, and adults, whether male or female, may be initiated and instructed to write a plain legible hand, in a very short time, only with the waste of a few sheets of clean paper, *probatum est*, all he wants is a supplement to a small fortune, to keep him genteel his remnant of time, while granted ability of body and mind. *Note*, He would chuse Philadelphia, or the invirons thereof; being a citizen thirty years, a freeman of the Hospital from the first institution thereof; notwithstanding, whersoever kind Providence casts his lot, still a loyal subject to the United States. ¶

Enquire at Justice FLEESON's, in Chestnut-street, or WILLIAM COPELAND, in Third-street, next to the Presbyterian Meeting-house.

ALL persons having any demands against the estate of Francis or Matthew Humphreys, deceased, of Talbot county, Maryland, are desired to attend on the first week of November next, with their accounts, properly proven; and those indebted, to pay and settle all demands whatsoever: As several attempts have been made to settle the above estates, it is hoped all concerned will pay proper attention to this advertisement, and prevent further trouble. THOMAS WALLACE, Administrator.

N. B. As there are some of the Books belonging to the above estates wanting, it is hoped the possessors will send them to Mr. William Bordley's, and oblige, ‖ *T. W.* Ad.

The following is extracted from Rivington's New-York Royal Gazette, of September 4, 1779.

LONDON, *July* 1.

Lord Hillsborough is said, with great certainty, to be appointed Secretary of State for the Southern Department, in the room of the late Lord Suffolk; but his Lordship has not yet kissed hands.

Lord Harrington has got the command of the Westminster regiment now raising, and the officers received their commissions on Monday.

The sloop that went after Sir Edward Hughes, to acquaint him of the news from Pondicherry, carried out orders for four sail of the line to be sent from his squadron, with some of the troops, to the West-Indies or North-America, as they could not be wanted in the East Indies since our success against the French. The cutter arrived from Sir Edward brings an account of the above sloop having joined the above fleet, and that the orders had been complied with, and the ships and troops had sailed accordingly.

On Monday orders were dispatched to all the sea ports to lay an embargo on all ships, that none may put to sea until all the men of war which are wanted for immediate service have got their full complement of men.

A great number of letters of marque and reprisals have been granted since the Spanish Ambassador left this court; and we are assured that orders are sent from Lord George Germain's office to the Governor of New-York, to grant letters of marque and reprisals against the Spaniards as well as against the rebels and French.

FISH-KILL, September 23.

The fortifications at West-Point go on with amazing rapidity; it may soon, with propriety, be denominated the *American Gibraltar*.

It is reported, that a party of the enemy have been drawn from both their forts at Stoney and Verplank's Points, to New-York; where, it is probable, they will have sufficient employ in a short time: A total evacuation of those posts is expected in a few days. Also, That the fleet, which sailed last week from New-York, with troops, supposed to be destined for the West-Indies, had returned to New-York. [*Trouble, perhaps, is at hand.*]

CHATHAM, *September* 21.

On Friday se'nnight three regiments sailed from New-York, under convoy of the Ardent of 64 guns. They were compleated by draughts from other regiments.

By every account from New York, we learn, that the enemy are making every preparation for a large embarkation. Various are the conjectures of their destination.

A Cartel, we hear, is likely to be settled for a general exchange of prisoners.

THE FREEMEN of the County of CHESTER are requested to meet at ELIJAH WEED's Tavern, in Downing's Town, on Tuesday, the 5th of October next, to consider of Matters of Importance, respecting the ensuing General Election. *Sept* 23. ‖ I W.

Philadelphia, September 23, 1779.

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS Reward.

STRAYED or STOLEN out of the pasture of the subscriber, in the Northern Liberties, a brown MARE, about 13½ or 14 hands high, 9 years old, paces and trots, branded on the near shoulder I. S. has a lock on one of his fore feet, a sore back, a star and snip, 3 white feet, and a bushy main and tail. Whoever takes up said mare, and brings her to the subscriber, in Fourth-street, shall receive Thirty Dollars, and for the mare and thief, if stolen, the above reward, and reasonable charges, paid by PETER DEHAVEN. ¶

THIRTY DOLLARS REWARD.

STRAYED or STOLEN on or about the second day of August last, a small black MARE, three years old, no shoes, crooked made behind, paces naturally. Any person delivering said MARE to the owner, or giving information that she may be had again, shall receive the above reward, by applying to the subscriber, living at the sign of the White Horse, in Chester county, 26 miles from Philadelphia.

¶ JAMES STUART.

Philadelphia, September 4, 1779.

STRAYED or STOLEN from the subscriber, a dark brown MARE, between 5 and 6 years old, about 15 hands high, her near buttock is not so full as her off buttock. Whoever takes up said mare, and returns her to the owner, shall receive Twenty-five Dollars reward, paid by PETER MATSON, living near the Swedes Church. ¶

CAME to the plantation of John Pringle, in Plymouth township, Philadelphia county, about the 17th of September 1779, a dark bay HORSE, about 7 or 8 years old, between 14 and 15 hands high, with a small star and little snip. The owner is desired to come, prove property, pay charges, and take him away, by John Whiteman, living in said place. ¶

Southampton, Bucks County, 9th Month 25, 1779.

WAS stolen out of the subscriber's pasture, the 3d night of the 7th month last, a dark sorrel HORSE, with a large blaze down over his nostrils, 11 years old, shod with old shoes, about 13½ hands high, heavy made, a little hollow backed, his hind legs a little crooked, paces a little, trots, and canters well, has been mostly used to the collar, works well, neither brand nor ear-mark. Any person giving information, so that the owner may have him again, shall have Four Hard Dollars Reward, or the value in current money, or produce; if the thief be brought to justice, double the sum above mentioned, paid by THOMAS WILSON. ¶

ALL persons having any demands against the estate of Samuel Patterson, deceased, of Cæcil county, Maryland, are desired to bring in their accounts, properly proven, that they may be settled and paid, and those indebted to pay without any further trouble. MARY PATTERSON, Executrix,
Sept. 14, 1779. ‖ THOMAS WALLACE, Executor.

CAME to the plantation of the subscriber, living in the Manor of Moreland township, Philadelphia county, on Sunday, the 26th of September, a BAY MARE, about 15 hands high, a natural trotter, one hind foot white, a small star in the forehead, and a boil on the neck. The owner is desired to come, prove property, pay charges, and take her away.

¶ WILLIAM ROBERTS.

TO BE SOLD,

A SHALLOP, lying at Capt. Thomas's Wharff, on the Head of Northeast, within Half a Mile of Charlestown, Cæcil County, Maryland, upwards of Eight Hundred Bushels Burthen, standing and running Rigging good. For Particulars, enquire of

THOMAS WALLACE.
Sept. 14, 1779. ¶

JUST PUBLISHED, and to be SOLD by the PRINTERS hereof,

POOR RICHARD'S ALMANACK,

For the YEAR of our LORD 1780.

WANTED,

A Journeyman SADDLETREE-MAKER.

SUCH an One will meet with the greateſt Encouragement, on Application to JOHN MEEM, at YORK-TOWN. *Sept.* 16, 1776. †

September 6, 1779.

CAME to the plantation of the ſubſcriber, in Oxford township, Philadelphia County, on the 3d inſtant September, a BAY HORSE, about 14 hands high, with a ſtar on his forehead. The owner is deſired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take him away.

¶ JACOB KIRKNER.

The higheſt current Price is given for Bills of Exchange on France, by

WIKOFF, SIDMAN and SMITH,

At their Store in Second-ſtreet, a few doors below Cheſtnut-ſtreet (formerly occupied by Mrs. Devine)

Who have for Sale, a large Aſſortment of Dry Goods, ſuitable to the approaching Seaſon. ‖ *tm.*

To the INDEPENDENT FREEHOLDERS *and other* ELECTORS *of the City and County of* PHILADELPHIA.

GENTLEMEN,

AS I again propoſe to offer myſelf a candidate for the Sheriff's office at the enſuing general election, to ſucceed the preſent Sheriff after the time limited him by law be expired. I therefore again moſt humbly ſolicit and requeſt the favour of your votes and intereſt in order to be on the return with him; which favour, as well as thoſe paſt, ſhall ever be had in memory and gratefully acknowledged by

Your ſincere friend and humble ſervant,

Sept. 17. ¶ WILLIAM DEWEES.

Philadelphia, Sept. 21, 1779.

To the FREEMEN, Electors of the County of Bucks.

GENTLEMEN,

THE honour done me by your chooſing me one of your Repreſentatives in Aſſembly for ſome years paſt, entitles you to my moſt ſincere acknowledgements. But the preſent impaired ſtate of my health, together with the peculiar ſituation of my private affairs, renders it both difficult and inconvenient to ſerve longer in that ſtation. Therefore beg you will chuſe ſome other perſon at the enſuing election, for your Repreſentative, in place of, *Your moſt reſpectful and very humble ſervant,*

¶ SAMUEL SMITH.

To the FREEHOLDERS and others, ELECTORS of LANCASTER County.

IN conſequence of the advice and encouragement which I have received from a number of my friends, I take this method of notifying you that I purpoſe to offer myſelf a candidate for the Sheriff's office at the enſuiug election. I hope therefore the intereſt of thoſe Gentlemen of my acquaintance, and others, electors of the ſaid county upon the occaſion, and have only to add, that I ſhould be happy in ſo ſignal a mark of their eſteem.

I am, GENTLEMEN, your moſt obedient, and moſt devoted, humble ſervant, THOMAS EDWARDS.

Lebanon, September 11, 1779. ¶

To the FREEHOLDERS and other ELECTORS in the County of LANCASTER.

GENTLEMEN,

I RETURN you my ſincere thanks for the honour in voting me on the return for the Sheriff's office, at the laſt election in this county. As I mean to ſtand a Candidate for that Office at the election enſuing; your votes and intereſt will be greatfully acknowledged by, Gentlemen, your obliged humble ſervant,

Sept. 18, 1779. ¶ JOHN MARSHAL.

FORTY DOLLARS REWARD.

RUN away the 26th of Auguſt, 1779, from the ſubſcriber, living in Deptford townſhip, Glouceſter county, in New-Jerſey, an apprentice lad, named William Malice, this country born, about 5 feet 2 or 3 inches high, near 18 years of age, a chunky well made lad, ſhort brown hair, round faced, black eyes, gliſſens much when he ſmiles, ſomething freckled, a cunning, ſmart active fellow; had on, and took with him, a round fine hat, a fine ſhirt and two coarſe ones, two pair of trowſers, a brown coattee, a lightiſh coloured upper jacket, and under ditto without ſleeves, a greeniſh caſt jean breeches, mended on the knees, paleiſh, ribbed worſted ſtockings, and good ſhoes, with braſs buckles. Whoever takes up and ſecures ſaid lad, ſo that his maſter may have him again, ſhall be entitled to the above reward, and reaſonable charges, paid by

¶ JAMES HINCHMAN.

September 20, 1779.

STRAYED away, or STOLEN, from the Subſcriber, living in Paſſyunk Townſhip, in the Five Mile Round, a Sorrel MARE and COLT, branded A. G. her hind Feet white and a white Snip on her Noſe, the Colt having one Ring Eye, white down from his Eyes, his four Feet white. Whoever takes up the ſaid Mare and Colt, and brings them to the King of Pruſſia in Market-ſtreet, ſo that the Owner may have them again, ſhall have a Reward of THIRTY DOLLARS, and all reaſonable Charges, paid by ADAM GARRET. ¶

Cecil County, State of Maryland, Sept. 9, 1779.

WHEREAS the General Aſſembly of this State have continued and amended an act, entituled "An act for the more effectual preventing foreſtalling and engroſſing, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned; and another act, entituled, An act to prohibit for a limited time the exportation of wheat, flour, rye, indian corn, bread, beef, pork, bacon, live ſtock, peas, beans, oats, and other victuals," whereby the abovementioned articles are prohibited from being tranſported from this State into any other State, under penalty of One thouſand pounds and the forfeiture of the article or articles ſo tranſported, and for the more effectual executing ſaid acts, have conſtituted and appointed Henry Hollingſworth, Patrick Ewing, Edward Parker, Benjamin Breward, Jeremiah Baker, David Macky, and David Smith, as a Committee for ſaid county, as by the aforeſaid act will more fully appear, therefore all perſons are deſired to conform to ſaid act, as they muſt expect to anſwer for the contrary to the penal laws of the State.

And whereas the ſeveral Committees in the reſpective counties are authorized and required to open Subſcription for the borrowing money on Loan-Office Certificates, for the uſe of the United States, one half of the ſaid Subſcription to be paid on or before the firſt day of October next, and the other half on or before the firſt day of January next; the Committee therefore give notice, that they have now opened Books at the Head of Elk for the receiving Subſcriptions. *By Order of the Committe,*

¶ JOHN JOHNSON, Clerk.

To the PUBLIC.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a SCHOOL will be opened on the Firſt of October next, under the Care of the Subſcriber, by whom due Attention will be given, that the following Things be accurately taught, viz. Engliſh Grammar, the Latin and Greek Languages, together with ſome uſeful Branches of the Mathematicks. The Neighbourhood is agreeable and very healthy; where convenient Lodgings may be provided, on reaſonable Terms.

Sept. 9, 1779. ¶ WILLIAM FOSTER.

TO BE SOLD,

A TRACT of LAND, ſituated in Mill-Creek hundred, New-Caſtle county, Delaware State, about five miles from Chriſtiana Bridge, and ſix miles from Newport, containing 130 acres, 70 of which are cleared, 10 acres of meadow and more may be made, and the woodland well timbered. There are on the place, a good dwelling-houſe and kitchen, a good barn and ſtables, a good bearing orchard, a well of good water at the door, and all the fields well watered. The ſituation is very healthy. A good title will be made, and the terms known, by applying to JAMES BOGGS, living on the premiſes.

Head Cheſter River, Kent County, State of Maryland, Sept. 9, 1779.

WANTED,

A PERSON that underſtands the FULLING Buſineſs compleat, and can come well recommended, will meet with generous Encouragement, by applying to the ſubſcriber. JOHN RAWLINGS. ¶

To the INDEPENDENT ELECTORS of the City and County of PHILADELPHIA,

GENTLEMEN,

I RETURN you my hearty Thanks for your Votes, and placing me on the Return for the Sheriff's Office at the laſt General Election, and take this uſual Method of requeſting the like Favour at the enſuing Election, which will be held in grateful Remembrance, by *Your moſt obedient Servant,*

¶ JAMES CLAYPOLE.

To the FREEHOLDERS, and other ELECTORS, of the Borough and County of Cheſter.

GENTLEMEN,

ENCOURAGED by your former Favours, I offer myſelf a Candidate for the Sheriff's Office, at the enſuing Election, as the preſent Sheriff's Term, agreeable to Law, then expires, which, if it ſhould be agreeable to make uſe of my Name, in your Ticket for that Purpoſe, will be gratefully acknowledged by

‖ 4 w. Yours, CHARLES DILWORTH.

To the FREEHOLDERS and FREEMEN of Northampton County,

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for the honour you have done me, in electing me one of your Repreſentatives in Aſſembly for theſe two years paſt. If you ſhould incline to elect me again, the imperfect ſtate of my health forbids my undertaking ſo weighty a charge any longer; I therefore think it my duty to inform you, that I cannot ſerve you. I am, Gentlemen, with the utmoſt reſpect, your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,

¶ WILLIAM M'FARREN.

A TANNER and CURRIER,

EITHER with or without a Family, who can be well recommended for Honeſty and Sobriety, and will undertake the Management of a Tanyard, may meet with good Encouragement, by applying to THOMAS MAYBURY or ISAAC POTTS, in Potts-Town. *Potts-Town, 9 Mo.* 11, 1779. ‖5w.

Red-Lion, Uwchland Townſhip, Cheſter County, Sept. 11, 1779.

TAKEN up as a STRAY, a large dark roan MARE, ſuppoſed to be three or four years old. The owner is deſired to prove his property, pay charges, and take her away.

¶ WILLIAM CLAYTON.

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.

STOLEN, laſt night, from the ſubſcriber, near Wilmington, New-Caſtle county, a large BAY MARE, ſeven years old, 15 hands high, paces a travel, trots and canters ſlow, ſlack of courage, branded on the near ſhoulder TB, ſhod before, has a ſtar in her forehead, her off hind foot white above the hoof, a wart on the off ſide of her head, below her eyes, and another wart the inſide of her thigh, her mane inclines to both ſides of her neck, and ſhe is in good order. Any perſon ſecuring the mare and thief, ſo that the owner may have her again, and the thief brought to juſtice, ſhall have the above reward, or Forty Dollars, and reaſonable charges, for the mare, paid by

Sept. 12, 1779. ‖ THOMAS BABB.

TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.

STOLEN from the ſubſcriber, living in Montgomery townſhip, Philadelphia county, Pennſylvania, two very valuable HORSES, on the night of the ſeventh inſtant, the one a bay horſe, about nine years old, high carriaged, branded with A.R.S. in a triangle, on the near thigh, with a ſtar in his forehead, a very ſhort dock, with but little hair on, ſomething better than 14 hands high, paces and trots, ſhod before; the other a pale brown, about 15 hands high, well built every way, 4 years old laſt ſpring, neither brand nor ear-mark, he has a little white on his near hind foot by his hoof, paces and trots, his fore feet was much worn for want of ſhoes, no ſhoes on when ſtolen; the colour, brands, and marks are deſcribed as near as I can at preſent. Whoever takes up the thief or thieves and horſes, ſhall have the above reward, ſo that the thieves be brought to juſtice and I may get the horſes again, or Fifty Dollars for each horſe, and for the thief or thieves One Hundred Dollars, beſides all reaſonable charges, paid by JOHN NAYLOR.

September 10, 1779. ¶

Darby Townſhip, Cheſter County, Pennſylvania, Sept. 6, 1779.

TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.

STRAYED or SOLEN from the ſubſcriber, a dark bay HORSE, five years old, about 14½ hands high, with a white ſtar in his forehead, white on both hind feet, rather moſt on the near one, he trots and canters, and when rode ſlow paces a little ſome times, rather ſlack of courage, and thin of fleſh. Whoever takes up and ſecures the ſaid horſe and thief, ſo that the thief may be brought to juſtice, ſhall be entitled to the above reward, and for the horſe only One Hundred Dollars, paid by

¶ SAMUEL SMITH.

††† Throw the rein over his neck, and take up the near fore leg and take hold of the off rein, draw it tight and bid him lie down, he will lie down on one ſide; he reſembles ſomething of a ſtone horſe, being cut a few months ago.

Eaſton, Northampton County, Sept. 13, 1779.

COMMITTED to this Gaol, the 8th Inſt. WILLIAM SIPKO, a Mulatto, who ſays he belongs to James Byers, living in Paxton Townſhip, Lancaſter County. His Maſter is therefore deſired to come, pay the Charges, and take him away.

¶ PETER EHLER, Gaoler.

FOR RICHMOND, VIRGINIA,

THE Schooner *HUMMING BIRD*, will ply conſtantly from *Richmond*, on *James-River*, to the *Head of Elk*; ſhe is a new *Virginia* built Boat, a prime ſailer, and well accommodated for Paſſengers: Any Paſſengers or Goods for *Norfolk*, *Portſmouth*, *Peterſburg*, *Richmond*, or the Parts of *Virginia* convenient to her Paſſage, ſhall be tranſported with Care and Attention. For Terms, apply to Mr. JAMES MARSDEN, of *Richmond*; Capt. JOHN HAGUE, on board; or LEVI HOLLINGSWORTH, in *Philadelphia*, by whom Goods will be received for ſaid Schooner.

Beſt James-River Mountain Tobacco, Pitt Coals, &c. ſold by

Sept. 13, 1779. ‖ LEVI HOLLINGSWORTH.

THE Young Clerk's Vade Mecum, or compleat Law-Tutor; containing a variety of the moſt uſeful precedents, of articles of agreement, bonds, bills, releaſes, letters of attorney, &c. &c. with a large collection of precedents, relating to the OFFICE OF A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE. Likewiſe, Judge Foſter's Reports, with his Diſcourſes on CROWN CASES.---*May be had at* BELL's *BOOK-STORE, next Door to St. Paul's Church, in Third-ſtreet, Philadelphia,*

Where alſo may now be had, Engliſh Bibles of various kinds; Engliſh Dictionaries; French and Engliſh Dictionaries; Weſt-India Pilots; Seaman's Daily Aſſiſtants; DILWORTH's Spelling-Books by the Dozen, or Groſs, at a lower rate than half price, when compared with what is at preſent the price of printing paper. †

N. B. Said *Bell* gives ready money for old or new Books.

TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.

STRAYED or STOLEN the night of the 26th of Auguſt laſt, a bright bay HORSE, about 7 years old, 14½ hands high, a ſtar in his forehead, one of his hind feet white, and branded on one of his flanks with a kind of a K. Whoever brings ſaid Horſe to the ſubſcriber, ſhall have the above reward, and reaſonable charges paid. W. WILL. †

Lancaſter, Auguſt 14, 1779.

Three Hundred Dollars Reward.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber on the evening of the 20th June laſt, a Negroe man named DAN, about 24 or 25 years of age, 5 feet 5 or 6 inches high, ſomething pitted with the ſmall-pox; his dreſs when he went off is uncertain, as he took ſundry clothes with him, amongſt which are, two coats, a light ſaggathy, and a brown with yellow buttons, three jackets, light blue, brown, and ſtriped linen, a pair of new buckſkin breeches, ſeveral pair of old ſtriped and 2 pair of tow trowſers, 3 pair of ſtockings, 3 good ſhirts, and a round hat. Said Negroe is this country born, and talks the Engliſh and German languages, is fond of playing the fiddle, is naturally left-handed, and what is very remarkable, he bows with his left hand when performing on the violin; he can work a little at the ſaddler's trade, is a ſhrewd cunning fellow, and will if poſſible procure a paſs, probably change his name, and endeavour to paſs as a freeman. Whoever takes up and ſecures ſaid ſlave in any gaol, ſo that his maſter may have him again, ſhall receive the above Reward.

CHRISTIAN WIRTZ.

SALE of forfeited ESTATES.

WHEREAS the eſtates of Henry Welfling, Joel Evans, George Napper, Thomas Yorke, Hudſon Burr, George Smith, and John Henderſon, all late of the city of Philadelphia, have in due courſe of law been forfeited and ſeized to the uſe of this State, We, the ſubſcribers, Agents for the ſaid city, do hereby give notice, That the real eſtates of the ſaid Henry Welfling, Joel Evans, George Napper, Thomas Yorke, Hudſon Burr, George Smith, and John Henderſon, within the ſaid city, conſiſting of the following meſſuages, lots, rents, and tenements, to wit.

A certain two-ſtory brick meſſuage, kitchen, and lot of ground, ſituate on the north ſide of High-ſtreet, between Fifth and Sixth-ſtreets from Delaware, the lot containing in breadth eaſt and weſt 18 feet, and in depth north and South 110 feet, with the privilege of a 3 feet alley, bounded weſtward by ground of Benjamin Swett, northward by ground of Abraham Peters, eaſtward by ground of Charles Chamberlaine, and ſouthward by High-ſtreet aforeſaid; ſubject to a yearly groundrent of 48 Spaniſh milled ſilver dollars, or the value thereof in lawful money of Pennſylvania.

Alſo a yearly rent-charge or ſum of 14½ Spaniſh ſilver milled dollars, or value thereof in lawful money of Pennſylvania, iſſuing out of a lot of ground whereon a two-ſtory brick tenement is erected (in the tenure of Abraham Peters) adjoining the north end of the above deſcribed lot; late the eſtate of the ſaid Henry Welfling.

A certain two-ſtory brick meſſuage, kitchen, and lot of ground, ſituate on the ſouth ſide of Stamper's Alley, between Second and Third-ſtreet, in ſaid city; the lot containing in breadth about 16 feet 8 inches, and in depth about 43 feet 6 inches; late the eſtate of the ſaid Joel Evans.

And a certain lot or piece of ground, ſituate on the weſt ſide of Front-ſtreet, between Saſſafras and Mulberry-ſtreets, in the ſaid city, containing in breadth north and ſouth 17 feet 6 inches, and in depth eaſt and weſt 162 feet 0 inches; bounded ſouthward by a ten feet alley (whereof this lot has the privilege) on which lot are erected a three-ſtory brick meſſuage, brick kitchen and bake-houſe, and a frame ſtable and chaiſe houſe; late the eſtate of the ſaid George Napper.

A certain elegant three-ſtory brick meſſuage and kitchen, frame ſtable and chaiſe-houſe, and lot of ground, whereon the ſaid buildings are erected, ſituate on the north ſide of High-ſtreet, between Fifth and Sixth-ſtreets, in the ſaid city; the lot containing in breadth 18 feet and extending in depth from High-ſtreet to South-ſtreet, being 200 feet; ſubject to a ground-rent of "£ 18 lawful money of America" per annum; late the eſtate of the ſaid Thomas Yorke, at preſent occupied by the Honourable Charles Thompſon, Eſquire.

A certain brick meſſuage, kitchen and lot of ground, ſituate on the weſt ſide of Fourth-ſtreet, between Saſſafras and Vine-ſtreets, containing in breadth on Fourth-ſtreet 17 feet 10 inches, and continuing that breadth as far as the buildings extend, then narrowing to the breadth of 16 feet 10 inches, and continuing that breadth to Crown-ſtreet, the whole depth of the lot from Fourth-ſtreet to Crown-ſtreet, being 173 feet; bounded northward by a meſſuage and lot of David Pancoaſt, and ſouthward by a meſſuage and lot of Uriah Woolman; late the eſtate of the ſaid Hudſon Burr.

A certain one-ſtory brick tenement, frame ſmith's ſhop and lot of ground, ſituate on the ſouth-weſterly corner of Union and Third-ſtreets, the lot containing in breadth on Third-ſtreet about 23 feet 6 inches, and in depth on Union-ſtreet about 41 feet, be it in breadth or depth more or leſs; ſubject to a groundrent of £ 8 : 12 : 6, Pennſylvania currency, per annum; late the eſtate of the ſaid George Smith.

And a certain three-ſtory brick meſſuage, brick kitchen, frame ſtable, chaiſe-houſe and lot of ground, ſituate on the ſouth ſide of Union-ſtreet, between Third and Fourth-ſtreets, and near the laſt above deſcribed premiſes; the lot containing in breadth on Union-ſtreet about 19 feet 6 inches, and extending in depth about feet (at preſent occupied by Colonel Lutterlow) late the eſtate of the ſaid John Henderſon.

All which will be expoſed to ſale by Public Vendue, at the Court-houſe in ſaid city, on Monday, the 4th day of October next, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon; and the ſale will be continued from day to day until the whole ſhall be diſpoſed of.

And we the Agents aforeſaid do alſo, purſuant to law, hereby notify all the claimants of the ſaid premiſes, or any of them, and the creditors of the ſaid Henry Welfling, Joel Evans, George Napper, Thomas Yorke, Hudſon Burr, George Smith, and John Henderſon, to exhibit their claims and demands to the Juſtices of the Supreme Court within the time limited by law, or they will be for ever barred from the recovery thereof.

CHARLES WILSON PEALE, WILLIAM WILL, ROBERT SMITH, Agents.

Philadelphia, September 1, 1779.

PHILADELPHIA: Printed by HALL and SELLERS, at the NEW-PRINTING-OFFICE, near the MARKET.